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EXCISE E

FRIDAY
OCTOBER 1, 1954.

B1 EB

Delegation meeting.

Lunched at Don Cook's with him, Drew Middleton of the New York Times, and Charles Kline of U. S. News and World Report.

At the plenary session this afternoon, Mendès flatly rejected the method by which the other nations proposed to deal with the armaments problem. He has had a bad cold, and his usually sallow face, with its dark "five o'clock shadow", was green with fatigue and strain. He referred to the way in which he believed his proposal has been butchered in committee, and termed it the most important matter that had been considered by the Council.

B1-EB

The meeting closed in an atmosphere of gloom and irritation.

It was too late to go with E. to see Kay and Rudolph de Trafford in Chester Square. I picked her up there, went for five minutes to a cocktail party at the Butterworths', [redacted] then on to the Aldrich's for dinner with the other members of the United States delegation. After delicious food and wine, the men congregated in the library and we reviewed Mendès' position.

A little before eleven I called on Walter Hallstein at Claridge's, and talked to him until after midnight. He believes Mendès will prove more reasonable tomorrow, when Spaak, possibly with German backing, will present a compromise paper.

Tommy arrived after lunch with a note from Jean Monnet, who hopes some principle of European unity may be reintroduced. I had already discussed this with Foster, Bowie, Spaak and de Staercke, and the Germans, but thus far we have seen no opportunity to revive the demand for the popular election of an Assembly.

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